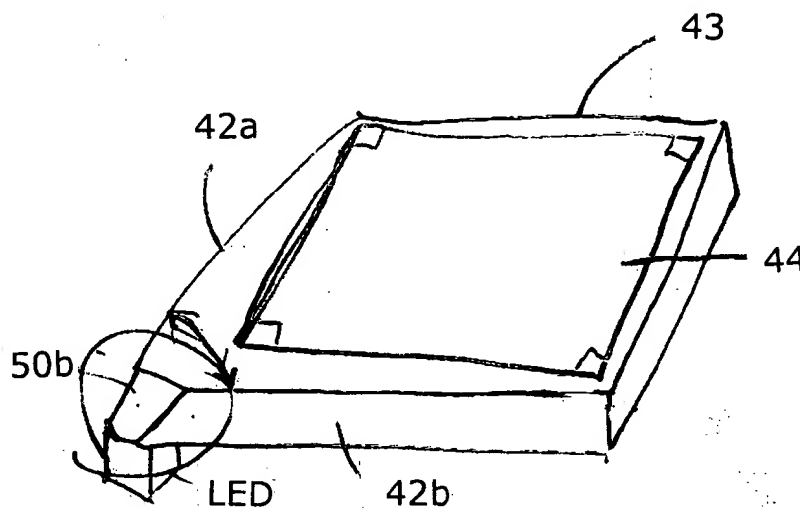


Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 23, 24, 26, 27, 30-32, 34-36 and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lindblad (U.S. Patent 5,404,277). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over Lindblad for the reasons set forth below.

Based on Applicants' Figure 18 and Figure 19, a further prospective drawing of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention appears below:



As shown, an LED may be used as a light source. Light from the LED shines upwards and is reflected off of light reflecting plane 50b. Side planes 42a and 42b extend from opposite sides of light reflecting plane 50b. Light emitting plane 44 is situated on top of the light guide member.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 23, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...a light emitting plane and side planes extending from opposite sides of the light reflecting plane...

...wherein an angle formed by said side planes...is an acute angle.

The Official Action equates surface 17 of Lindblad as being Applicants' light reflecting plane. Using this analogy, however, Lindblad lacks Applicants' claimed feature of side planes which extend from the light reflecting plane and which form an acute angle. Accordingly, claim 23 is patentable over the Lindblad.

The remaining independent claims have been similarly amended and are thus also patentable over Lindblad.

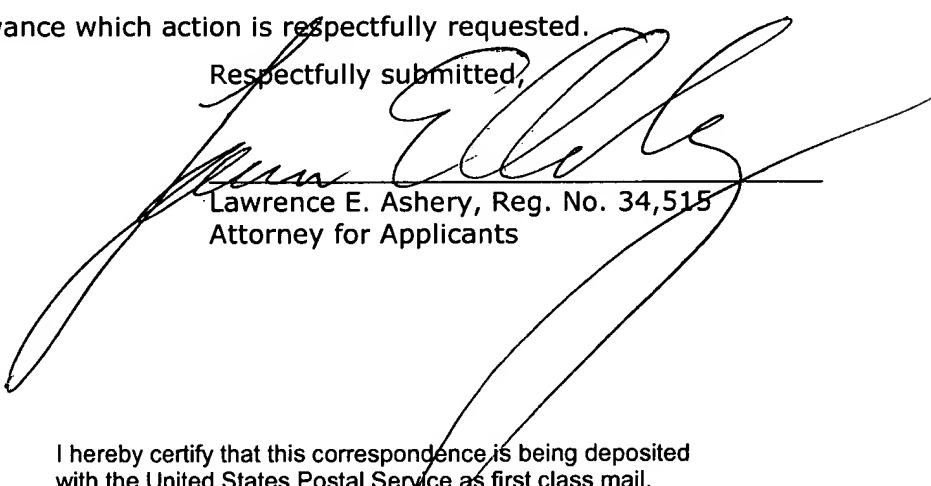
Several withdrawn claims have also been amended. These claims should now be allowed because Applicants' claim 23 is generic to those claims.

The remaining dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claims 57 and 58 are newly added. These claims are supported by Applicants' Fig. 18 and Fig. 19. No new matter has been added. These claims recite additional features regarding Applicants' light guiding section which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record. Allowance of claims 57 and 58 is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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